



Preparing for a party

Local man not letting age slow him down



Tattooist making it big

Prestigious company signs Fort Erie man



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The Fort Erie Times

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Saturday, April 10, 2010

Happy hunting!



MATT DAY The Times

Hundreds of children had their eyes peeled and their baskets handy for the annual Easter Egg Hunt held at Crystal Beach Public School last Saturday. The hunt was separated into three age divisions and included thousands of treats.

Public gets final view of skatepark

Designers calling it a 'state-of-the-art' facility

Matt Day
The Times

The final design of Fort Erie's new skatepark to be built adjacent to Town Hall was revealed to the public on Monday for the first time.

Representatives from LANDinc presented councillors with the final look of the skate park which includes 10,000 square feet of street course elements and bowl elements for skateboarders and BMX riders.

The bowl portion includes one shallow end with a depth of five feet connected to a deeper dog-leg end with a depth of seven feet.

The street components include multiple roller paths, quarter pipes, fun boxes, flat-banks and stairs.

Both sections will be separated by a common gathering rest area for spectators.

"The canvas of this design will give beginners, intermediate and advanced riders many opportunities to test their skill," said landscape architect Bill Gurney.

See Page 2

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EZ Rock serves up lunch



Garrison Road Public School was recently chosen as the winner for the weekly Salute Your School contest organized by 105.7 EZ Rock. Students were treated to a free, healthy lunch of lasagna, apples and salad. Jamie Duggan from B&J Catering joins Lori Love and Jack Poets in serving up a plate to Grade 4 student Kendell Perchalluk.

Ratepayers to see increase

Water and sewer base rates increase as Region adjusts costs

Water and sewer ratepayers in Fort Erie will be seeing an increase to their water bill effective April 16. That's because councillors passed a by-law to raise water and sewer base rates by about \$2 each per month.

The water rate will be increasing from \$20.91 in 2009 to \$22.77 while the

sewer rate will be seeing an increase from \$33.89 in 2009 to \$35.52.

Consumption rates are also on the rise, but at a minimal increase of 10 cents per 1,000 litres used combined.

Councillor Martha Lockwood said the increase in costs is due to the Niagara region having to adjust its rates.

"We passed our rates earlier assuming there would be no change at the region," she said. "Sixty per cent of our water bills' fixed cost goes to the region so to leave the rates as they were

would mean the Town would be facing a deficit."

Unfortunately, the increase will be affecting all ratepayers, even if they practice good conservation methods.

"One of the good things coming out of this is that we are looking at a fairer way to bill people so if they do use less water they will hopefully see a reduction in their bill."

No changes will be made until after 2010.

Niagara regional council approved the change to the water and sewer budget on March 25.



THE HEARING LOSS EPIDEMIC

According to one estimate, one in three adults suffers from some degree of hearing loss. Even more alarming, one out of six adults (20 million) experiences trouble understanding speech. If these numbers were attached to an influenza outbreak, there would be headlines. Instead, all too many people suffer in silence. In reality, some degree of age-related hearing loss, known as "presbycusis," is to be expected. After age 50, men are 4.5 times more likely than women to be afflicted with hearing loss that makes communication difficult. However, hearing loss also affects 8.5% of those in their 20s and 17% of adults in their 30s. These statistics suggest that people of all ages adopt prevention strategies and seek treatment if necessary.

We bring you this column on hearing healthcare in order to better educate our friends here in Fort Erie on the importance and benefits of taking care of their hearing, thus enhancing their quality of life. If you are having trouble hearing, or if a family member seems to be experiencing hearing difficulties, we welcome your call at **HearAgain! (BALANCE & HEARING CLINICS)** 905-871-4242. We offer comprehensive services by a skilled and specially trained audiologist at 860 Garrison Road, Unit 12, including hearing tests and evaluations, individualized hearing instrument fittings, and follow-up care.

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Construction begins on new truck lane at Peace Bridge

Matt Day
The Times

The construction of a new commercial truck lane and inspection station at the Peace Bridge has begun.

The \$2-million project was announced at a recent groundbreaking ceremony at the international border crossing with Canada's Justice Minister Rob Nicholson alongside chairman of the Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority (PBA) Ken Schoetz.

"As the third-busiest Canada-U.S. commercial truck crossing, the Peace Bridge is essential to trade

with the United States," said Nicholson. "The Government of Canada is proud to have invested in this project, which is creating local jobs today... while contributing to efficient trade and travel over the long term."

The project includes the construction of a fifth primary inspection lane and booth for Canada-bound commercial vehicles and a designated Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System (VACIS) area where X-ray type devices use low levels of gamma rays to detect any unauthorized items.

Nicholson said the upgrades are important not only to speed up the

“...This country is a trading nation and the border has to work”

— Rob Nicholson
Justice Minister

process of clearing through customs, but to better protect Canada from incoming contraband.

"We have to make sure the goods coming into our country are safe and reli-

able," said Nicholson. "Any investments made along the border are good for not only Niagara, but for Canada as this country is a trading nation and the border has to work."

The Government of Canada, through the Gateways and Border Crossings Fund, is contributing \$1 million for the improvements while the PBA is providing the remaining \$1 million.

"The Peace Bridge Authority is pleased to be able to partner with the Canadian government on this project. Transportation infrastructure, particularly international bridges, is key to

enhancing and maximizing the binational trade and tourism relationship between Canada and the United States," said Schoetz. "These improvements will help expedite commercial crossings into Canada, thereby reducing congestion and traffic queues, and allowing the Peace Bridge to function more efficiently."

Ron Rienas, general manager of the Peace Bridge Authority, said the three-lane bridge connecting Canada with the U.S. is one of the busiest international border crossings and often becomes backed up when one of the lanes is congested with trucks waiting to clear inspection.

The improvements being made now will have no effect on the Peace Bridge capacity expansion project regardless on what type of span is chosen.

"There is no bearing whatsoever in design, layout or financing as the existing bridge and its uses will be permitted for commercial traffic once a new span is built."

The work is taking place on land along the Niagara Boulevard which was acquired from the Niagara Parks Commission last year as part of a land swap for the Coal Docks property at the east end of Jarvis Street. Construction is expected to be completed this summer.

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Former Fleet workers still have money waiting to be collected

There are thousands of dollars out there waiting for laid-off Fleet Industries workers, all they have to do is claim it.

Susan Baker, executive assistant at Magellan Aerospace Inc. – Fleet's parent company – said she was given the task of tracking down more than 500 employees who were laid off in February 2006 in order for them to rightfully collect their pension money.

"We have a number of people left who we can't find and we owe these people money. It's really important they get a hold of us so we can pay them."

Baker said they have managed to find 423 former workers, but there are still about 50 people out there who have money waiting for them and they have no idea the funds are there.

"It all depends on how long they worked at Fleet and what department they were in, but the money could be in the thousands of dollars range."

She said the human resources department was given the daunting task in September. They went through an independent



We have a number of people left who we can't find and we owe these people money."

— Susan Baker

agency and through the federal government in order to help track down some of the former employees, yet the company has not been able to find everyone.

In order to be eligible for the vested pension plan that was in place, former employees must have worked at Fleet Industries for at least five years.

"Some people may not even realize they worked there for that long and are missing out on free money. With times how they are now, this could be beneficial to them."

For more information, contact Baker at 905-677-1889 ext. 229 or email her at susan.baker@magellan.aero.

**One child.
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We need In-School Mentors in our community.

Being an In-School Mentor is a small commitment that makes a big difference. As a mentor, you'll spend one hour per week with a child at their school – and through friendship, guidance and sharing, you'll help build a child's self-esteem. Children who spend time with a mentor gain confidence, acquire new skills and competencies, and develop an enhanced capacity to care for others. In addition to the benefits to the child, mentors also experience a sense of discovery and enjoyment as they see the world of possibility open up through a child's eye. Companies who support employee volunteerism through flexible work schedules or program sponsorship also see benefits both in the workplace, and in the community.

Contact us today at 905-871-8836 for more information about becoming an In-School Mentor or a corporate supporter of the program in Fort Erie.



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- 89% of students felt better about themselves
- 66% of mentors are prouder of the company they work for



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Fort Erie is a United Way member agency

This ad has been made possible through a financial contribution from the Ministry of Education.



"It only takes one hour a week to be an In-School Mentor volunteer. I cannot understand why anyone wouldn't do it. My mentee and I read, play games and play school during our one hour together. She is always the teacher when we play. I get as much fun and enjoyment as I give in this program."

— Deanne Dube, In-School Mentor



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, April 15 Cocktails at 6 pm Dinner at 7pm
Buffalo Canoe Club – 4475 Erie Road
Networking, Dinner, Induction of Board, Door Prizes
Tickets \$60 (Choice of entrée) Reservations required

2010-2011 Membership Directory

New edition published this spring!
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Bill 168: Get the Facts & Be Prepared
with Michelle Alton, Associate lawyer at Hicks Morley
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The

Fort Erie Times

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opinion page

The
Fort Erie Times www.forterietimes.com

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our editorial

Think before you act

We've all made poor decisions in our life. It's how the world works.

The recent news about a group of teens attempting to set fire to the Cpl. Albert Storm Memorial playground goes beyond the category of poor decisions.

Here we have, in essence, a monument to a fallen soldier for all the community to embrace and one bad decision almost led to the destruction of months of hard work, dedication and fund raising by community members.

Maybe the group didn't realize how much the playground means to the community, or maybe they were just bored and wanted some attention, either way there's no excuse for

trying to deliberately damage public or private property.

None of the youth involved would like to have their most prized possession set ablaze.

The fact is it's over and done with now, and fortunately there was no real damage.

It doesn't matter if it's a mailbox, a bicycle left on a lawn or something much larger than that – if it's not yours, don't touch it unless you have permission.

To the youth – and anyone else in this community – think before you act. Your simple decision could mean a lot to people.

-Matt Day



Do You Remember?

Hope you all enjoyed the April Fool's photo from last week.

Strangely, no one was able to identify any of these people walking with their backs turned towards the camera. This week's photo shows a distinguished group of men standing proudly

by an assortment of trophies.

We would love to know who these gentlemen are and what the trophies were for.

Please call the Museum at 894-5322 or send an email to museum@forterietimes.com.

Don't get caught up too much in 3D shows



Matt Day
Reporter's Notebook

You're sitting in the comforts of your own living room, when all of a sudden a golf ball comes crashing through your TV screen on a direct course to your face.

You jump and throw your hands up, but then quickly remember it's not real and laugh it off.

The latest craze of 3D movies has swept across

the globe, with movie producers pulling all the stops to create that "wow factor" when an audience gathers to see the latest technological-y advanced film.

Now, you can get that experience without ever stepping foot outside with the launch of 3D televisions.

Sure, it's not the same as the type of special effects that are thrown at you from a 40-foot screen, but the reality is, this is the wave of the future.

Bell TV just announced that it will be Canada's first TV

provider to offer a national 3D high definition broadcast this weekend when it delivers rounds three and four of the 2010 Masters Tournament.

For those very lucky people who have managed to nab one of the nearly \$3,000 sets and the \$150 glasses to go with it, they will be the first generation to witness this breakthrough and own the rights to brag to all their friends.

It seems like yesterday we were investing thousands of dollars into high definition LCD screens and now

the majority of homes feature some sort of flat monitor positioned in a living room or on a computer desk.

Having seen a few 3D movies myself and being blown away by the experience, I'm excited to eventually own one of these sets which will become a household name in five years...or less.

The problem is, I'll have to wait until a drastic price drop or some luck at the casino for me to be able to purchase one.

I'll admit, I don't watch a lot of television

shows. I'd rather be outside – especially with nice weather finally here – walking down the Niagara Parkway, fishing at one of the local ponds or sitting around a bon fire late at night.

Those are the real 3D experiences which are free in our own backyard.

Game systems are increasingly becoming more technologically advanced and it's only a matter of time before the 3D technology comes to that form of entertainment.

What I'm trying to say is, although we have

all of these latest electronic devices to help make life easier and more enjoyable, don't get caught up too much in them.

There's nothing like tackling the day head on instead of watching other people do it on TV.

There's much more to life than sitting around, jumping at a fake ball crashing through your TV set.

If you would like to leave me feedback, email me at mday@forterietimes.com or call me at 905-871-3100 ext. 208.

opinion page

Yellow Shirt Brigade asks where is our government now?

Dear Editor,

Recently, Andrea Horwath was in Niagara Falls and a public meeting was held at the Public Library, where people could get to meet her and hear her views on our lack of adequate and accessible health care.

She has stood up time and time again in the Legislature and fought for our rights as promised to all Canadians, and has invited the Yellow Shirt Brigade to a few of the sessions as her guests.

Andrea cares and she shows openly and strongly that she will continue to fight for accessible health care for all of us. She is a dynamic and credible speaker as she speaks from her heart, and, she does come in person to the community.

Kim Craitor was also in attendance, as he is, at almost all of our events. Kim is one of the few politicians like Andrea who is trying to help us.

Kim is in the unenviable position of being in the party that is forcing the awful changes on us and depriving the people of Niagara from having a health care system that is working, and improving our access to help in an emergency.

These changes are delaying critical surgeries and treatments for cancer

patients, and filling the few beds we have left with long term care patients.

We all wish he would cross the floor, as he does work hard for his constituents, no matter what their political affiliation.

The speakers told their stories and once again these new stories were upsetting to hear.

They told of long waits, stress and in one case about a young man that was beaten severely in St. Catharines and taken to the hospital where they treated him like a drunk and called the police.

His mother repeatedly asked them to reassess him as he had been there for hours and she was concerned about the head injuries.

She took him to Hamilton by car where he was immediately taken care of and all tests done. You should have been there just to hear the emotion and hear about the neglect in an overburdened hospital.

That was only one of the stories and there was not enough time to hear them all.

Five members of the Yellow Shirt Brigade went to Queens' Park recently as guests of Andrea Horwath.

She stood up in the question and answer period and spoke about our lack of health care, and

did in fact ask the Premier if he would look at Merilyn Athee in the face because of the fact that her cousin was kept in the E.R. of Niagara General for a total of 7 days because there were no beds available.

She died shortly after the Douglas Memorial.

He never even turned his head to acknowledge the request. He ignored us completely, which is quite a feat as we rather glow in our yellow tops. He just went on with his memorized spiel that we have all heard so often.

I closed my 3 minute talk with:

Niagara Falls, St. Catharines and Welland, we the people of the Southern Tier are sorry to overburden your Hospitals, but your services and beds are also being cut so it will only get worse.

It is time to stop this insanity and regain our Health Care.

Speak out now before it is too late.

Remember next time we vote for Municipal and Provincial Governments let's get it right.

Our country sends aid to help other countries to stop the tyranny.

Where is our government now?

Joy Russell

Yellow Shirt Brigade

The **TIMES** Asks

How's your luck been during the Tim Hortons' Roll Up the Rim contest?



Sandra Wettlaufer



Kevin O'Brien



Linda Gorham



Ed Melanson

"Not so lucky. I've won a few coffee and donuts."

"I've had no luck at all, but I only go there every once in a while."

"I don't go to Tim Hortons because I make my own coffee at home."

"I've won two coffees and a donut and I'm there every single day."

What do you think?

E-mail: editorial@forterietimes.com or call 905-871-3100, ext. 207

Reader not pleased with new developments along existing Stevensville sewage system

Dear Editor,

The cause of the Winger Road sewage line debacle should be laid at all the previous Town councils, who knowingly let new developments and building permits to be issued against the wishes of the residents.

It was also in violation of the 1980 Ontario Municipal Board decision forbidding any new extensions to the Stevensville sewage system.

These councils swamped the pumps and the small diameter sewage pipes, which meant raw sewage would be dumped into Black Creek, an unlawful act.

According to the O.M.B. their decisions are binding, but our Town rarely listens, or abides by the Municipal Act, or the O.M.B.

For want of a better word, they are outlaws, in my opinion.

To show any oversight

regarding Stevensville sewage line extensions, I feel there is plenty of blame to go around to share in this debacle on Winger Road.

Our Sewage system, designed for 1,500 people, now serves over 3,000 people.

Anybody, except our elected officials, could see a disaster in the making.

George Jardine

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PUBLIC NOTICE

(1) TOWN OF FORT ERIE
NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION AND PUBLIC MEETING
ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT
APPLICANT/OWNER: BRIAN AND GORDON TEAL

Application: 350309-0329

DATE: May 3, 2010
TIME: 6:00 PM
LOCATION: TOWN HALL,
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

LOCATION OF SUBJECT LANDS

PROPOSED CHANGE

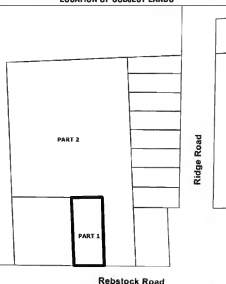
A Zoning By-law Amendment application has been received for the lands located at 3720 Rebscock Road. The amendment application is the result of a concurrent consent application, which proposes to sever Part 1 from the larger parcel, Part 2. The Zoning By-law Amendment application proposes to rezone Part 1 from Neighbourhood Development ND Zone to a Residential 1 R1 Zone to permit the existing single detached dwelling and accessory structures.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Input on the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the Public Meeting or by making a written submission to the Town. Please note that unless you do one of the above now, you may not be able to appeal the decision later.

WRITTEN SUBMISSION

To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision of the Zoning By-law Amendment, please send a letter to the Town Clerk Carolyn Kett, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6.



MORE INFORMATION

For further information please contact Kira Dolch, Senior Development Planner at (905) 871-1600 extension 2507. A copy of the Information Report will be available to the public on April 20, 2010. The information report will be available in the Council agenda portion of the Town's Web Site: www.town.forterie.on.ca or from the Community and Development Services Department.

PLANNING ACT LEGAL NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

The Town of Fort Erie has not yet made a decision regarding this application.

After considering any written comments and the comments from the public meeting, a Recommendation Report will be prepared for a future Council-in-Committee meeting.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the By-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Fort Erie to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the By-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board, unless in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

If you do not attend the public meeting but wish to be notified of the adoption of the Zoning By-law Amendment, you are required to make a written request to the Carolyn Kett, Town Clerk and such request should include the name and address to which such notice should be sent.

Dated this 10th day of April, 2010

Carolyn Kett, Town Clerk

Rino Mostacci, Director of Community and Development Services

Youth caught after attempting to set fire to memorial playground

➤ No damage caused after fire was set inside one of the playground's tunnels.

Matt Day
The Times

The Cpl. Albert Storm playground was put in place to be a symbolic play area for the residents of Fort Erie to enjoy in honour of a local hero.

All of the hard work the community went through to have this structure put in place almost went up in smoke after a group of several youths attempted to light a fire inside one of the tunnels of the playground Monday night.

Doug Atkins, public safety officer with the Fort Erie Fire Department, said fire and police crews responded to a call from a concerned citizen who

noticed the group of six children acting suspiciously in that area around 9:30 p.m.

Upon the fire department's arrival, they discovered a small fire was created inside one of the tunnels, but had burnt itself out before causing any real damage.

"It's a stupid thing to do. Here we have the community doing something good for the area and there are people like this who think nothing to vandalize it or to destroy it," said Atkins.

Fortunately, the fire created from a pile of loose leaves caused no damage to the playground and police officers were able to spot the suspects walking away from the scene along Ridgeway Road.

Dave Hunter, staff sergeant for Fort Erie, said the youth were in their early teens and that they of them admitted to creating the fire.

"In this particular case

no damage occurred, so no charges were laid. We believe the lesson was learned and that the discipline needs to come from the parents in this situation."

Hunter said had any visible damage occurred, charges would have been laid.

Atkins said many thanks needs to go out to the resident who called emergency services as quickly as he or she did.

"So often you hear of people who see something and walk away from it. This goes to show the majority of the community take ownership of their playground."

The playground was used heavily over the holiday weekend thanks to sunny skies and warm temperatures.

The Niagara Regional Police wants to warn children and adults that playing with fire can be a dangerous and destructive activity if not properly supervised.

ATV collision sends two to hospital

Emergency services responded to reports of an ATV collision on Eagle Street last Friday at around 2:10 p.m. to find a man and a woman suffering from serious injuries after the male driver lost

control of the vehicle.

The 27-year-old Fort Erie man crossed over the westbound lane and onto the northerly shoulder where he came into collision with several trees, throwing him from the

ATV.

He was air-lifted to the Hamilton Health Sciences - General Site with serious injuries where he remains in stable condition.

The 23-year-old Hamilton woman was also thrown off and was transported to the Greater Niagara General Hospital with serious injuries where she remains in stable condition as well.

The collision remains under investigation by detectives with the Niagara Regional Police Collision Reconstruction Unit. Witnesses with any information are asked to contact investigators at 905-688-4111 ext. 5500.

Jillian Bondy

Jillian has been matched with her little sister Alysha for a year now and has seen growth in both of them. "I am better to relate to someone younger and Alysha's confidence has grown and she is more outgoing when talking to people," they enjoy swimming, skating and anything artistic.

Volunteering was modeled in Jillian's family so finding some way to make a difference in the community was natural. A student in teachers college, Jillian still finds time to spend with her little sister.

Every child needs a mentor. If you are interested in being a Big Brother, Sister or Couple or are interested in any of our other programs give us a call. Don't wait - there are children waiting to be matched.



BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF GREATER FORT ERIE
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website: www.bigbrothersbig sisters.ca/forterie

Long-time Fort Erie resident not letting age slow him down

➤ The party is set for Burdett Sisler's 95th birthday party on April 14.

Matt Day
The Times

Burdett Sisler remembers Fort Erie during a much simpler time.

Garrison Road was a narrow, two-lane road with trees towering into the sky on both sides.

There was no Central Avenue bridge, no highway overpasses, no traffic lights and downtown was thriving on Jarvis Street.

"When I first came here, there were elderly counselors and they didn't like progress so Fort Erie stood still for quite a while."

Fast track 64 years later and all that has changed, and it doesn't have Sisler worried.

In fact, he keeps up with the times as much as he can. The former customs worker and TV repairman will be turning 95 on April 14 and wants the whole community to come help him celebrate on Sunday at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 71.

Although Sisler is nearly a century young, he said he doesn't feel it.

He is still an active member of this community and serves as treasurer for the Dandi-Lions and Harmony Hill. He's been on the Fort Erie Seniors' Advisory Committee since 1995 and couldn't help but laugh at a notice he received in the mail saying his term was up in 2015.

Sisler was born in the United States, but said he considers Fort Erie home.

He moved to Canada in 1917, served as a telecommunications mechanic during the Second World War and carried on with his love for electronics by opening up his own television repair shop with a friend of his in Fort Erie after the end of the war.

"There weren't too many TVs in town back then," he recalled.

By 1952, the need for a specialized TV repairman was low and that forced him to change careers.

He then applied for a job at the Canada Border Services Agency in 1952 with a starting salary of \$150 a month and continued to work there until 1979.

"I've been out longer than I was in," he said with a smile and a hearty laugh.

He tries his best to keep up with technology and said he is on the computer everyday e-mailing or surfing the web.

"Technology doesn't scare me because I've been around it my whole life. I'm constantly learning."

The lively senior even continues to drive, and likes to reminisce at certain spots around town, like his old home on Emerick Avenue where he lived for 50 years.

"They'll never take my car away from me. I've been driving since 1936 and I drive all the

time. It's part of my lifestyle."

He said although his life is full of good memories and stories, he's witnessed his fair share of bad times.

"I don't even know how many different funerals I've

had to attend," slowly leaning back in his chair and his normal smile fading.

Still, the great grandfather of 15 remains optimistic about life and puts a positive spin on everything he says.

"I don't like to reminisce a whole lot because I live for the day... People wonder why I keep going and I tell them it's simple. I don't want to sit and waste away for the rest of my life."



94-year-old Burdett Sisler sits at his computer desk inside his Dominion Road house.

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Local tattooist signed by prestigious company opening up in Niagara Falls

Matt Day
The Times

Artie Sowden never thought becoming a tattoo artist would be his future career.

"I've always loved them and I always loved sketching,

but I never put two and two together."

Now, the 28-year-old Fort Erie resident has been handed the opportunity of a lifetime.

The already distinguished tattooist will be building his portfolio up even more with

his recent signing to the world-famous Hart and Huntington Tattoo company which will be opening up in Niagara Falls in May.

Sowden was named head tattoo artist in the company's first Canadian shop.

He was chosen from about

100 applicants after a client of his met entrepreneur and professional motocross racer Carey Hart in Las Vegas.

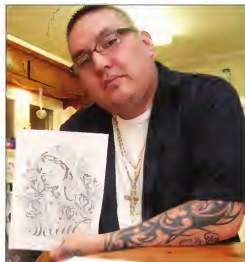
"He actually met with me first before any of the interviews because he liked my style," said Sowden, explaining how music and his culture helps inspire his west-coast type of artwork.

Hart himself visited the Niagara region after hearing about the high demand of having an upscale tattoo shop in the Southern Ontario area. Sowden said Niagara Falls is the perfect spot for the fifth location of a Hart and Huntington shop.

"Canadians, and the Niagara region in particular, aren't afraid of expressing themselves. We're open and free and not afraid to show that off."

Sowden has been tattooing for five years at Artistic Impressions in Niagara Falls and said his goal is to eventually open up a shop of his own in Fort Erie.

"I want to bring a reputable business back here with the experience I'll be getting and already have. I'm a family and community minded person



Artie Sowden holds up one of his many drawings inside his Dufferin Street home. The 28-year-old was recently signed as head tattooist for the Niagara Falls Hart and Huntington opening soon.

and I feel I can give back to my hometown with a trait that I've learned properly."

Sowden said he doesn't want to limit himself to one specific style as he has clients all over the world requesting him.

"I'm forever grateful for

what has happened to me, and I'm glad I am able to express a talent of mine to the whole world."

Appointments are being taken once the shop opens and can be arranged by emailing him at asowden.hbtat@gmail.com.

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CLOSED SUNDAYS

Local church donates food



Mandy Crosby of Community Outreach Program Erie accepts 160 grocery bags full of pasta, soups, cereal and other food items on behalf of the Victory Christian Centre's recent food drive.

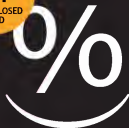
Kinsmen donates dinner



Ridgeway-Crystal Beach Kinsmen Club members Derrick McGuigan, back left, Tim Haggerty and president Marc Zucarelli join Eastwood Manor owner Cheryl Savoy and residents Sandra Wendler and Rena Doan for an Easter Dinner. For the last seven years around Easter, the local service club has donated a full course meal to the nursing home in Crystal Beach for the annual Billy Ford Memorial Dinner.

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E.J. Freeland Room

When:

Thursday, April 15th

Time:

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Fax: 905-871-5284 or Email: helenmcnicola@niagara.com

Deadline for applications: April 13, 2010 - 4:30 p.m.

The info collected is only to ensure the candidates selected for an interview will be notified.

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Coming Events A940

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starting May 18th. Limited enrollment. Contact Judith Baum, The Dog Lady (905) 871-7419 or www.the-dog-lady.com

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All persons having claims against the Estate of ALBERTA ROYER, late of the Town of Fort Erie, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, who died on the 28th day of November 2009, are notified to send particulars to the undersigned on or before the 26th day of April, 2010, after which date the Estate will be distributed with regard only to claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person whose claim the undersigned shall not then have notice.

DATED the 19th day of March, 2010.

Paul Boyes, Estate Trustee by his solicitors

Johns, Jamieson & Reddy
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A854

Birthday greetings



Happy 1st Birthday
April Crichton
April 13th
Lots of love from Mom & Dad



Happy 1st Birthday
NATHANIEL
April 8th, 2010
Love Mom, Grandma, Grandpa, Auntie, Brianna, Kevin, Nanna, Papa, Grandma Joannee, Grandma Jim and the rest of the gang!

Let your family and friends know where to celebrate with you.
Call Classifieds: 1 866 541 6757

Birthday greetings



Happy 40th Birthday
to my wife and best friend
Tara
Love Roger, Bev, and the gang.



Lauren Spada
will be 8 years old on April 10th!
We love you so much.
Love Mommy, Daddy, Grant, and Foxy.



Open House
for **Earl Sims**
celebrating his 80th Birthday
Friday, April 16th, 6p.m. - 8p.m.
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Birthday greetings



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T888888

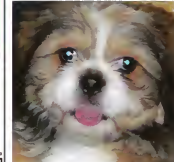
Engagements



Brad and Elaine Spurek are thrilled to announce the engagement of their son Jeff to Jessica Hancock, daughter of Andrea and Dwight McKay. A 2011 wedding is planned.

T888888

Thank You Cards



THANK YOU
April 3, 2010 - Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. was in a car accident at the corner of Bernard and Highway 3. I ran from the scene scared and confused but 6 hours later on Teal Road I was rescued by family. Thank you so much family, friends and neighbours.
Joe

T888888

Deaths



BURGESS, Sue (nee Kingston) - Peacefully at the Greater Niagara General Hospital, Niagara Falls on Tuesday, April 6th, 2010 in her 73rd year. Loving mother of Randy (Ruth) Burke, Robert Charles (Shari) Burgess and Ann Michelle (Jason) Bassford. Loved Grandma Sue of Ansonia and Leah Burgess, Christy Roothee and Great Grandma of Royce Harrah. Dear sister of Tom (Mary) Kingston and sister-in-law of Kathryn Kingston. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Sue was a Registered Nurse. A long time parishioner of St. Michael's Church, Presiders of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and former President of the Catholic Women's League. A volunteer driver with the Red Cross and the Meals on Wheels. "The girls are together again." The family received their friends at the **HAMMOND-DAVIDSON FUNERAL HOME**, 21 Whittemore St., Fort Erie on Thursday, Funeral mass was celebrated at St. Michael's Church, Fort Erie on Friday, April 9th at 11 a.m. Cremation with inurnment at St. Joseph's Cemetery. The Vigil Mass celebrated at the funeral home on Thursday at 3:30 p.m. If so desired, expressions of sympathy may be made to St. Michael's Church Building Fund. Online guest register at www.hammond-davidsonfuneralhome.com

HYGAARD, Hjalmar - After a long struggle, Hjalmar passed away at the St. Catharines General Hospital on Monday April 5th, 2010 in his 83rd year. Loving husband of Lena, Proud brother of June (Jim) Neeterbeek of Florida, Richard, (Darlene) and Elaine Hygaard all of Thunder Bay. Hjalmar worked for over 40 years for Ontario Hydro and was an Elder in the Congregation of Jehovah's Witness for over 30 years. He will be sadly missed by the many individuals that he has touched over his lifetime. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. Cremation will take place.

In memoriam



Margaret Brooks

December 8, 1942 - April 8, 2008

It's been two years since we lost a loving Mother and Nana. A lot has changed in our lives but one thing remains the same our hearts still ache with the thought of you gone forever, but it's not goodbye "it's see you later".

Love you children: Melissa, Tammy, Patty, Beth, Debbie (Carl), John (Mel), Bonnie (Joe), and Bill (Tammy) and grandchildren: Steven (Laura), Kayla, Jason, Jessica, Krista (Casey), Mikol (Peter), Ashley (Justin), Mikayla, Jennifer, James, Kara (Mike), Rita, Johnny, Kristopher, and great grandchildren: Jada, CJ, Dekin and Lena.

In memoriam



Margaret Brooks

December 8, 1942-April 8, 2008

A part of me died the day I lost you, my loving wife and best friend of 50 years. My life as I knew it will never be the same without you but there isn't a day that goes by you aren't on my mind. Until the day we meet again, my love. Your loving husband John. XO

In memoriam

RITENBURG

In loving memory of Howard who passed away April 9, 1990. Sadly missed by Helen and family.

Card of thanks

THE PHILLIPS FAMILY

We would like to thank the Hammond-Davidson Funeral Home for the professional and personal care extended to each of us in the recent loss of our mother and grandmother. Your thoughtfulness was appreciated.

Those we love we never lose
For always they will be
Loved, remembered, treasured,
In our memory.
That a loving God knows best.

Memoriam Verse #50
To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

"I've always taken care of my family.
No reason to stop now."



GRAY, William T. (Bill) - W.W.II Veteran, 2nd Anti-Tank Royal Canadian Artillery. Retiree of Fleet Manufacturing. Born June 29th, 1923 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, passed away April 3rd, 2010 at Billings Court Manor in Burlington, Ontario with his family by his side. Beloved husband of the late Jean (1999). Devoted and loving father to Neil (Sandi) of Squamish, BC, Terry (Paul) Baker of Burlington, Ont., Michelle (Giles) Champagne, of Val-des-Monts, QC., Roselyn (Mark) Davidson of California, Dale (Mike) Thompson of St. Catharines, Ian of Texas and Gerald (Cindy) of Fort Erie. Loving Papa to Jackie (Joel), Barb (Jack), Kelly (Kevin), Danielle (Jean-François), Justin, Mike (Mikela), Samantha, Sean, Chris (Andrea), Scott, Amanda, Kerri, David (Michelle), Kara, Andrew, Melissa (Joel), Stephanie and Billy. Great Grandfather to 20 Great Grandchildren. He leaves behind his sister Agnes Jacks of Winnipeg. Predeceased by his parents as well as 6 brothers and sisters. Special thanks to all staff at Billings Court for their care over the last 5 years. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES** 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family received friends on Thursday April 8th, from 10 am until the time of the service to Celebrate Bill's life at 11 am. Interment to follow in Greenwood Cemetery. If so desired, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family.

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Bouquet

Thank you to everyone who helped search for a running, scared dog who escaped from a vehicle during a car accident on a busy easter weekend, by including businesses for putting up a "LOST" poster.

Moe was rescued 6 hours later in time for supper.

Brick

To whomever was responsible for letting my 80-year-old neighbour find his own way home from the Niagara Falls hospital after he needed to be admitted.

They sent him home in a taxi at 3 a.m. and forced him to pay with money he had left back home.

Bouquet

I would just like to thank the man who returned my wallet. You are so nice and I can't

Bouquet

To the cast and crew of Fort Erie Secondary School's production of Blood Relations. Your innovative show was interesting and very well done on Wednesday night.



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